

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for promoting efficiency of gene transfer into plant cells or plant tissue by a bacterium belonging to genus *Agrobacterium*, comprising the steps of: heating and centrifuging said plant cells or plant tissue; and contacting said plant cells or plant tissue with the bacterium so that the gene is transferred into the plant; wherein contact between the plant cells or plant tissue and the bacterium occurs after or while heating and/or centrifuging the plant cells or plant tissue.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 33°C to 60°C.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 35°C to 55°C.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 37°C to 52°C.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the heat treatment is carried out for 5 seconds to 24 hours.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the heat treatment is carried out at a temperature of 37°C to 52°C for 1 minute to 24 hours.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 100G to 250,000G.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 500G to 200,000G.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein said centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 1000G to 150,000G.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said centrifugation is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 1000G to 150,000G.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a plant characterized by using the method according to claim 1.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated from an angiosperm.

15. (Original) A method for preparing an angiosperm characterized by using the method according to claim 14.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated by a monocotyledon.

18. (Original) A method for preparing a monocotyledon characterized by using the method according to claim 17.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated from a plant belonging to family Gramineae.

21. (Original) A method for preparing a plant belonging to family Gramineae characterized by using the method according to claim 20.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue are(is) of rice or maize.

24. (Original) A method for preparing rice or maize characterized by using the method according to claim 23.

25. (Canceled)